

(i) the adoption of best practices and voluntary consensus standards relating to commercial and residential buildings; and

(ii) participation by interested parties in—

(I) government programs, including those at the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department of Energy;

(II) public-private partnerships; and

(III) private initiatives;

(B) create awareness of the beneficial impacts that high performance buildings have on communities, including reductions in operating costs, improvements in the health and productivity of occupants of high performance buildings, and enhancements in community resiliency;

(C) encourage interested parties to engage in dialogues on innovative policies and programs relating to the build environment that address needs relating to resiliency, workforce development, and energy and water efficiency;

(D) support investment in research and programs that incentivize investments in high performance commercial and residential buildings, as investment in high performance buildings is in the overall interests of the United States; and

(E) invest in training and education for, and celebrate the work of, engineers, architects, builders, code officials, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, and others in the construction industry who work to advance high performance buildings.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 549—DESIGNATING JUNE 15, 2018, AS “WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MURPHY, and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 549

Whereas the Federal Government estimates that more than 1 in 10 persons over the age of 60 are victims of elder abuse each year;

Whereas abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults in the United States are unidentified and unreported because of an inability to report or a fear of reporting;

Whereas only 1 in 14 cases of financial abuse of older adults is reported;

Whereas at least \$2,900,000,000 is taken from older adults each year due to financial abuse and exploitation;

Whereas elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation have no boundaries and cross all racial, social, class, gender, and geographic lines;

Whereas older adults who are abused are 3 times more likely to die earlier than older adults of the same age who are not abused;

Whereas ½ of all older adults with dementia will experience abuse;

Whereas providing unwanted medical treatment can be a form of elder abuse and exploitation;

Whereas there is evidence of an increase in elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation linked to individuals with opioid addiction;

Whereas the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21701 et seq.) was signed into law on October 18, 2017, but there is still more that can be done to stop elder abuse;

Whereas financial abuse of older adults has consistently been one of the top 10 complaints made each year to the fraud hotline of the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate;

Whereas public awareness has the potential to increase the identification and reporting of elder abuse by the public, professionals, and victims, and can act as a catalyst to promote issue-based education and long-term prevention;

Whereas private individuals and public agencies must work together on the Federal, State, and local levels to combat increasing occurrences of abuse, neglect, exploitation, crime, and violence against vulnerable older adults and vulnerable adults, particularly in light of limited resources for vital protective services; and

Whereas 2018 is the 13th anniversary of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 15, 2018, as “World Elder Abuse Awareness Day”;;

(2) recognizes judges, lawyers, adult protective services professionals, law enforcement officers, long-term care ombudsmen, social workers, health care providers, professional guardians, advocates for victims, and other professionals and agencies for efforts to advance awareness of elder abuse; and

(3) encourages members of the public and professionals who work with older adults to act as catalysts to promote awareness and long-term prevention of elder abuse by reaching out to local adult protective services agencies, long-term care ombudsman programs, and the National Center on Elder Abuse, and by learning to recognize, detect, report, and respond to elder abuse.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 40—RECOGNIZING THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN AND THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN IN STRENGTHENING SUCH RELATIONSHIP

Mr. GARDNER (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 40

Whereas Taiwan is—

(1) a free, democratic, and prosperous nation of 23,000,000 people; and

(2) an important contributor to peace and stability around the world;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.)—

(1) states that it is the policy of the United States “to preserve and promote extensive, close, and friendly commercial, cultural, and other relations between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan”;;

(2) states “Programs, transactions, and other relations conducted or carried out by the President or any agency of the United States Government with respect to Taiwan shall, in the manner and to the extent directed by the President, be conducted and carried out by or through ... the American Institute in Taiwan”; and

(3) established the American Institute in Taiwan, which is responsible for—

(A) managing unofficial United States relations with Taiwan; and

(B) implementing United States policy toward Taiwan, including a wide range of activities such as commercial services, agricultural sales, consular services, and cultural exchanges;

Whereas the 3 pillars of the American Institute in Taiwan’s mission are—

(1) security and defense cooperation;

(2) commercial and economic relations; and

(3) people-to-people ties;

Whereas the American Institute in Taiwan—

(1) will open its new office complex in Taipei on June 12, 2018, which—

(A) consists of 14,934 square meters of office space constructed at a cost of \$250,000,000, underscoring the United States’ commitment to its relationship with Taiwan;

(B) will allow all of its sections and operations in Taipei to be co-located in a modern, secure, and energy efficient facility;

(C) was built with a combination of materials from the United States and Taiwan;

(D) will be staffed by a workforce of approximately 500 employees from the United States, Taiwan, and other countries; and

(E) will host a permanent “Art in AIT” collection of works by United States and Taiwan artists that embodies the artistic and cultural confluences of innumerable person-to-person ties that link Taiwan and the United States;

(2) also has a branch office in Kaohsiung, which has more than 30 employees; and

(3) processed 34,000 visas in 2017;

Whereas President Tsai Ing-wen visited the American Institute of Taiwan on May 15, 2018 and plans to attend its official opening on June 12, 2018;

Whereas since the election of President Tsai Ing-wen in 2016, the Government of the People’s Republic of China has intensified its efforts to exclude Taiwan from international organizations;

Whereas in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, the United States declared its intention to support Taiwan’s participation in appropriate international organizations;

Whereas Taiwan is a full member of the World Trade Organization, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, and the Asian Development Bank;

Whereas according to the Department of State, “the United States supports Taiwan’s membership in international organizations that do not require statehood as a condition of membership and encourages Taiwan’s meaningful participation in international organizations where its membership is not possible”;

Whereas Taiwan maintains full diplomatic relations with 18 nations around the world;

Whereas on February 28, 2018, the United States Senate unanimously passed the Taiwan Travel Act (Public Law 115-135), which was signed into law on March 16, 2018, declaring that it should be the policy of the United States to allow officials at all levels of the United States Government to visit Taiwan in their official capacities; and

Whereas the United States National Security Strategy, which was released in December 2017, states: “We will maintain our strong ties with Taiwan in accordance with our ‘One China’ policy, including our commitments under the Taiwan Relations Act to provide for Taiwan’s legitimate defense needs and deter coercion.”;

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress—

(1) welcomes the opening of the new American Institute of Taiwan office in Taipei, which will—

(A) cultivate the relationship between the United States and Taiwan; and

(B) further demonstrate the United States’ commitment to bolstering its friendship and its commercial and defense partnership with Taiwan;

(2) recognizes that the American Institute of Taiwan—

(A) reflects the democratic values shared by the United States and Taiwan; and